

LUMPKIN COUNTY WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2016

Lumpkin County Administration Building Conference Room

Members in attendance: Murl Jones, John Gaston, Rhett Stringer, Gary McCullough, Vic Dover, Charles Trammell

Others in attendance: Sean Phipps, Dee Harris, Joy Edelberg, Sam Norton

Call to order: Chairman Murl Jones called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm

**Approval of Agenda:** agenda to be amended to add an item after VI to discuss retirement program. Motion to approve as amended: Gary McCullough. Second: Charles Trammell. Motion carried unanimously.

**December 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes: Charles Trammell. Second: Gary McCullough. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financials:** Director Sean Phipps presented financial reports for December. Motion to accept December financial reports: Gary McCullough. Second: Rhett Stringer. Motion carried unanimously.

**Elevated storage tank** – Sean noted engineers are ready to submit to EPD and start bidding process. GEFA is fining us \$1000/mo until project is under contract. Sean stated road improvements will be sufficient to cancel the monthly fine. Sean is working on best alternative for construction road and permanent access road. Property closing within 30 days. Member John Gaston to prepare recordable legal descriptions, surveys, easements, etc.

**2016 Budget** – presented to members in December. Motion to adopt 2016 Budget: Gary McCullough. Second: John Gaston. Motion carried unanimously.

**Defined benefit plan.** Chairman Murl Jones questioned the difference between the Authority and the County retirement plans offered employees. Sean stated the plans are the same with the exception of the Authority not having enough employees to fund a defined benefits plan. Members discussed the possibility of joining the county's plan. Sean to investigate.

**Director's report** – attached.

Motion to adjourn: Gary McCullough. Second: Vic Dover. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:04pm

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Approved

## Directors Report: January 19, 2016

### Health and Safety Issues:

- **Sherwood Forest** – Water samples collected from customer's homes in the Sherwood Forest Subdivision during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2014 found levels of lead that exceeded EPA action levels at one home. Per Georgia EPD regulations, LCWSA implemented a corrosion control program and public education program to address the issue. Public Education efforts included placing a "Lead Alert" message on customer's monthly water bills. In 2015, LCWSA successfully completed two six-month rounds of lead and copper monitoring without exceeding EPA action levels for lead. LCWSA will be able to remove the "Lead Alert" message from the monthly water bills starting in January 2016.
- **Construction Signs** – LCWSA purchased two "Construction Ahead" signs and stands to alert drivers when LCWSA is making repair in (or near) roadways.
- **Back Up Generator** - LCWSA purchased a 7500W / 50Amp generator to use at some of LCWSA's isolated water systems during extended power outages. The generator should be capable providing basic water service to smaller water systems including: Stonehenge, Cambridge, Sherwood Forest, Camelot, Oak Ridge, Rock Pointe and Fern Park. Assisted by the Lumpkin County Emergency Services Department and Lumpkin County's Grant Analyst, LCWSA continues to pursue funding for a backup generator to be installed at the Hampton Forest Production Well on the 400 Water System.

### Repair and Maintenance:

- **400 Water System** -

A fire hydrant was struck by a vehicle near the Dollar General Store on Highway 60 and will need to be replaced. LCWSA is coordinating has filed a claim with the drivers insurance company for the damage.

LCWSA and Turnipseed Engineering completed an "11 Month" inspection of the Hampton Forest Well in January. LCWSA noted check valve and a pressure reducing valve needed to be repaired or replaced. Turnipseed Engineering will coordinate with contractor on these items. Overall the Hampton Forest Production is in good working order.

- **Cambridge** – LCWSA rebuilt the filtration system that serves this water system. This should improve the consistency of the filters performance.
- **Sherwood Forest** – Three separate leaks were repaired on the distribution system. LCWSA is installing new bladder tanks at the well house to reduce water hammer produced by the well pumps and to provide storage that will allow LCWSA to better isolate areas of the distribution system when waterline leaks are being repaired.
- **Improved Access** – Loads of gravel were spread at the access roads leading to the lift station on Highway 60 and the to the Elba well house in the Wellington Subdivision.

## **directors report January 19, 2016 Board Meeting**

### **Construction Projects:**

- **Camelot** – The waterline extension project is scheduled to start on February 8<sup>th</sup> and be substantially complete within 120 days. LCWSA is will be mailing letters to property owners adjacent to the waterline extension route. The letter will encourage property owners interested in connecting to the new waterline to contact LCWSA. The letters will also notify them that households that qualify as “low to moderate income” status may be eligible to have their tap fees waived provided: They chose to become LCWSA customers within 6 months of the completion of the waterline and They agree to maintain an active account for a minimum of two years.
- **Elevated Storage Tank** – A Staff Report for this project has been included in the Board Packets for this meeting.

**Budget:** LCWSA Staff presented a 2016 Budget for Operations at the December 2015 Board Meeting. A Staff Report reviewing the 2016 Construction Projects has been included in the Board Packets for this meeting.

Mauldin & Jenkins will be completing an Audit of LCWSA’s 2015 financial statements. Dee Harris is coordinating with Mauldin & Jenkins staff and has already begun preparation for the upcoming Audit.

### **Training:**

Dee Harris recently completed in an online training program offered by the Carl Vinson Institute of Government in combination with the University of Georgia. Dee successfully completed a series of training courses that are specifically focused on Local Governmental Accounting and Annual Budget Preparation

Johnny Trammell passed the Class 3 Water Operator Exam in January and has applied for his Class 3 Water Operators License.

Sean Phipps will be attending a free certification training program for Qualified Water Loss Auditors in January. The training is two day program presented by the Georgia Association of Water Producers.